

## County of Los Angeles CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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May 11, 2005

To:

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Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From:

David E. Janssen

Chief Administrative Officer

**SACRAMENTO UPDATE** 

## <u>Assembly Select Committee on Los Angeles Health Care Crisis</u>

The next hearing of the Select Committee has been scheduled for May 13, 2005 at St. Francis Medical Center, 3630 East Imperial Highway, in Lynwood from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon. The title of the hearing is "The Administration, Management and Governance of the Los Angeles County Health Care System." Department of Health Services (DHS) Director, Dr. Thomas Garthwaite, and staff from my office have been asked to participate on a panel regarding current DHS governance and alternative governance models, respectively.

## Senate Democrats Announce Plans to Stabilize Emergency Rooms

Senate President Pro Tem Don Perata held a press conference on May 11, 2005 to announce the Senate Democrats' proposals to help stabilize California's emergency medical services (EMS) system. One of the proposals would match \$24.8 million in Proposition 99 Emergency Rooms funds with Federal dollars to increase Medi-Cal rates for emergency room physicians. Other proposals would: (1) authorize local EMS agencies to establish county or regional consortia to develop policies relating to ER diversion; (2) establish a trauma care advisory committee to develop a statewide trauma

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plan by January 1, 2007; and (3) resolve payment disputes between providers and insurers. Many of the proposals are already in legislation, including **County-supported SB 267 (Romero)**, which would restructure the Trauma Care Fund to require regional distribution of funds based on the statewide proportion of trauma care services provided in a region, repeal the requirement that trauma centers receive a minimum level of funding, and require the grants to be awarded on a competitive basis.

We will continue to keep you advised.

DEJ:GK MAL:JF:EW:ib

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
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